

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

I am disturbed that any corporation can use their free access to the public air waves to push their political agendas not through commercials but through full time programs. I don't have cable and I don't want my only access to the networks to be distorted by this partisan programming. We license companies to use our airwaves for the good of the public. This partisanship is NOT good for democracy and I am offended by it.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.